

BOROUGH OF FALMOUTH



Annual Reports

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

(C. B. LANYON, M.D., Lond., F.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.)

AND

Sanitary Inspector

(A. HEY, F.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.)

FOR THE YEAR ENDING

31st December, 1944

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1944-1945.

THE MAYOR OF FALMOUTH (COUNCILLOR E. E. HOWARD).

Chairman : COUNCILLOR W. C. THOMAS.

ALDERMEN G. BUTLER.

W. A. LAMB,

W. REEP, O.B.E.

H. A. RIDER.

COUNCILLORS V. A. S. BONE.

T. CAMPBELL.

C. COOPER.

T. H. ELKINGTON.

G. R. ENNOR.

E. W. HEARLEY.

J. L. HUGHES.

A. NAPIER.

W. O. PEARCE.

W. C. THOMAS.

K. H. WILLIAMS.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health :

C. B. LANYON, M.D. (LOND.)

Sanitary Inspector :

A. HEY, F.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Assistant Sanitary Inspector :

G. BARNARD.

Health Visitors and School Nurses :

MISS C. TRUSCOTT, S.R.N., S.C.M.

MISS M. LAKEMAN, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Pupil Sanitary Inspectors :

P. C. DEEBLE.

R. JONES.

BOROUGH OF FALMOUTH

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Sanitary Inspector

for the Year Ending 31st December, 1944

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of
Falmouth.*

11th October, 1945.

Mrs. Bone and Gentlemen,

The following report is prepared in accordance with instructions given in Circular 49/45, issued by the Ministry of Health, dated 19th March, 1945, and is in abridged form.

The question of Salvage has been in the forefront and

details of this subject will be found under the heading of Public Cleansing.

Evacuation and other emergencies have again taken most of the time of the very depleted staff, but we have been able to abate numerous nuisances and keep the necessary records up-to-date.

As much attention as possible has been given to the supervision of our Milk Supply and 387 Samples were submitted to the Area Laboratory of the Ministry of Agriculture at Truro in connection with the National Milk Testing and Advisory Scheme.

A Survey was made, at the request of the Ministry of Food, regarding the extent of Rodent Infestation, and a report was submitted to the Ministry concerned.

The Council engaged a Rodent Operator, who attended a course of instruction in Rodent Control, and towards the end of the year a scheme of systematic eradication was commenced.

It has been quite impossible to maintain any standard of housing accommodation, owing to shortage of labour in the building trade, and it will be many years before these arrears of maintenance work will be overcome.

The total number of cases of overcrowding in the Borough at the end of the year was three, two of which are in houses owned by the Council.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water.

The Water Engineer reports that the Water Supply to the Statutory Area has proved satisfactory, both in quality and quantity.

Bacteriological and Chemical examinations of the Treated Waters are made quarterly and Bacteriological examination of the Treated Water monthly. The results

declare a "Wholesome supply of water suitable for a Public Supply."

By treatment with Lime the pH value of the water is maintained at 9.5 to assure freedom from plumbo-solvent action. The maintenance of this value is confirmed by Chemical Analysis. Continuous Coagulation, Filtration and Chlorination is maintained. The proportion of dwelling houses and of the population supplied from public water mains direct to the house is 90 per cent., and by means of stand pipes 1 per cent., exclusive of Rural and/or Areas. My department submitted eight samples from private supplies for Bacteriological and Chemical examination. Five were reported as being unsatisfactory and the consumers were notified of the results of the analysis.

Drainage and Sewerage.

There were no major alterations or extensions in connection with sewerage during the year.

Rivers and Streams.

Action was taken to check pollution whenever necessary.

SECTION A

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (in acres)	.. .. .	1,893
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population, 1944, for statistics	..	14,740
Number of Inhabited Houses, 1931	..	2,916
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1944) according to Rate Books	.. ..	4,000 (approx.)
Rateable Value, 1944	.. .. .	£154,266
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	.. ..	£625 10 8.62 (Subject to Audit)

Vital Statistics.

		Total	Male	Female
<i>Live Births</i>	.. Legitimate	261	129	132
	.. Illegitimate	39	24	15
		—	—	—
		300	153	147

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population : 20.35. England and Wales : 17.6.

		Total	Male	Female
<i>Still Births</i>	.. Legitimate	4	2	2
	.. Illegitimate	2	1	1
		—	—	—
		6	3	3

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births —19.61.

		Total	Male	Female
<i>Deaths</i>	.. ..	205	96	109

Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population : 13.91. England and Wales : 11.6.

Deaths from puerperal causes :—

	Deaths.	Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births.
Puerperal sepsis	—	—
Other Maternal causes	—	—
Total	—	—

Deaths of Infants under one year of age :—

Legitimate, 12; Illegitimate, 4; total, 16.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 live births ..	53.33
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	45.98
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	102.56
England and Wales (Deaths under one year of age)	46

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	.. ..	27
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	.. ..	—
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)		—
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	.. .. .	—

Maternal Mortality.

Pathological investigations are carried out by Dr. Hocking of the Royal Cornwall Infirmary in cases of Puerperal Pyrexia when considered necessary.

When home conditions are unsatisfactory, and in cases of abnormality, arrangements have been made with the Cornwall County Council to admit cases to maternity beds maintained by that Council.

Child Welfare.

Sessions are held on Tuesdays and Fridays at the Child Welfare Centre, from 2 to 4 p.m., for the weighing of babies and advice to mothers. The Medical Officer of Health interviews all cases on Tuesdays from 3 to 4 p.m.

All infants under five are visited by the Health Visitor and advice, and, where necessary, treatment given in accordance with Circular 2831.

Dental Treatment.

Sessions are arranged by the County Authority.

Prevalence of, and Control Over Infectious Diseases.

No fever of note has been prevalent.

The Council has adopted the plan of immunising the child population against diphtheria between the ages of 1 and 15.

The method employed is two doses of alum precipitated toxoid, the first being 0.2 c.c. and the second 0.5 c.c. at an interval of at least four weeks.

So far since the scheme has been adopted in November, 1940, 2,958 children have been completely immunised out of an estimated child population for the age period 1—15 of 3,249.

Notifiable Diseases in 1944.

DISEASE.	No. of Cases Notified.	AGE AT NOTIFICATION.												No. of Cases Admitted to Hospital.
		0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	Over 65	
Small Pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ...	18	...	...	...	...	8	9	...	...	...	...	1	...	5
Diphtheria ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Etiatic Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
(including Paratyphoid)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia ...	14	...	9	9	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	6	1	...
Erysipelas ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Kneeballs Tetanus ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	1	...	...	...
Dysentery ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	1	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Malaria ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ...	13	2	2	1	4	1	...	1	1	1	...	1	...	...
Whooping Cough ...	30	6	13	9	2	4	13	1	...	1	...	1	...	...

Tuberculosis.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
25	6	2	—	1	—	1	—	—
35	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
45	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
55	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Totals	12	5	—	3	1	1	1	2

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

(1st April, 1944, to 31st March, 1945.)

A weekly collection of house refuse was maintained along with a weekly collection of salvageable materials. The following is the tonnage of materials collected and sold during the year :—

107 tons Mixed Waste Paper.

3 „ Magazines, Journals and Books.

55 „ Cardboard.

4 „ Selected Waste.

6 „ Textiles.

4 „ Bones.

61 „ Food Waste.

3 „ Rubber.

Total tonnage, 243 tons.

The returns indicate a drop of 4 tons of Waste Paper as compared with the previous year, which must be considered fairly satisfactory in view of the growing shortage of the material, but is 11 tons below our quota.

Textiles increased from 5 tons to 6 tons and Bones dropped 3 tons ; there appears to be no excuse for the drop in Bones as the ration of meat has not been reduced.

Taking all our services into consideration :—

The total Cost of Collection is £3,681 19 3

Receipts—

Sale of Salvaged

Materials £1,113 4 2

Leaving a net Cost of Collection of .. £2,538 15 1

Cost of Disposal, Burning of Refuse .. £151 5 6
(as compared with £251 14s. 7d. in 1939)

Receipts—

For Collection of Refuse £50 0 0

Leaving the net Cost of Burning .. £101 5 6
(as compared with £201 14s. 7d. in 1939)

Cost of Removing Clinker from Destructor £273 10 11

Receipts £100 0 0

Leaving net Cost of Removing Clinker £173 10 11

Emptying of Cesspools.

This work is carried out by a Dodge 350 gallon Cesspool Emptier, which is also used for sewer flushing, etc.

The Total Cost of these Services amounts to 649 8 9

Receipts for hire of Cesspool Emptier 46 9 6

Leaving a net cost of £602 19 3

In concluding this report, we desire to express our

sincere appreciation of the support received during the year from the Sanitary and other Committees, our best thanks to the staff, one and all, for their loyalty, zeal and devotion, and for the able and energetic manner in which they have at all times discharged their many and onerous duties, often under very trying conditions.

Your obedient servants,

C. B. LANYON, Medical Officer of Health.

A. HEY, Sanitary Inspector.

